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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/039,326	11/07/2001	Richard Tiffin	RTIFFIN-1X	1491

7590 04/09/2004

MICHAEL A. GUTH  
2-2905 EAST CLIFF DRIVE  
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95062

EXAMINER

LEGESSE, NINI F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3711

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DATE MAILED: 04/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Interview Summary

Applicati n N .

10/039,326

Applicant(s)

TIFFIN, RICHARD

Examiner

Nini F. Legesse

Art Unit

3711

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Nini F. Legesse. (3)\_\_\_\_\_.

(2) Attorney Michael A. Guth. (4)\_\_\_\_\_.

Date of Interview: 07 April 2004.

Type: a)☒ Telephonic b)☐ Video Conference  
c)☐ Personal [copy given to: 1)☐ applicant 2)☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d)☐ Yes e)☐ No.

If Yes, brief description: \_\_\_\_\_.

Claim(s) discussed: Claim 2.


Identification of prior art discussed: US Patent No. 5,984,802 to Perrine.

Agreement with respect to the claims f)☐ was reached. g)☒ was not reached. h)☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

  
Stephen P. Garbe  
Primary Examiner

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner's signature, if required

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Applicant's representative Mr. Michael Guth provided informal proposed amendment via fax to the examiner on 04/06/04. During the course of the interview, claim 2 was discussed as it relates to the prior art of record. Specifically, Applicant's representative Mr. Guth explained how the invention functions differently than the applied prior art of record. Examiner has indicated to Mr. Guth that the "...wherein said mark retaining surface means is easily removed and replaced" limitation that he proposes to include in claim 2 will not overcome the Perrine reference since Perrine teaches the use of a house hold spray-wax or foamy soap solution (see column 6, lines 26-28) on the top surface of his device and this wax element is considered to be easily removable. Mr. Guth indicated his willingness to amend the claim by specifying that the "firm support layer is significantly more rigid than the mark retaining layer". In conclusion, it was agreed that any amendment and argument that Applicant would provide in response to the first office action would be considered upon official submission and Examiner will contact Applicant's representative if there is any allowable subject matter and/or suggestion for claim language..